

Message Text

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ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 CPR-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

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DRAFTED BY L/ UNA: RJBETTAUER: JNP

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 111066

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, UN

SUBJECT: ILC DRAFT ARTICLES ON PROTECTION OF DIPLOMATS

1. DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED DRAFT DATED JUNE 4, 1973, OF UK OBSERVATIONS ON ILC DRAFT ARTICLES ON PROTECTION OF DIPLOMATS. THIS PURSUANT TO INFORMAL AGREEMENT THAT UK WOULD CONSULT WITH USG BEFORE SUBMITTING COMMENT. MOREOVER, MEMBERS OF VAN BRUSSELEN (BELGIUM) CONSULTATIVE GROUP IN NEW YORK AGREED TO DISCUSS EACH OF THEIR DRAFT COMMENTS AT MEETING PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED FOR ABOUT JUNE 8.

2. DEPARTMENT IS EXTREMELY CONCERNED ABOUT UK COMMENTS. MAIN THRUST OF COMMENTS IS THAT SCHEME OF CURRENT ILC DRAFT ARTICLES SHOULD BE DISCARDED AND NEW CONVENTION ON PROTECTION OF DIPLOMATS SHOULD BE REMODELED ON BASIS OF HAGUE HIJACKING CONVENTION. WHILE WE UNDERSTAND THAT IT MAY BE NECESSARY DURING NEGOTIATIONS AT GA THIS FALL TO

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MOVE IN THIS DIRECTION IN RESPONSE TO PRESSURES FROM OTHERS, WE THINK IT ILL ADVISED FOR COUNTRIES THAT SUPPORT QUICK ACTION ON CONVENTION TO TAKE POSITION IN FAVOR OF SUCH SWEEPING REVISIONS. DANGER IS THAT TO CALL FOR SUCH CHANGES AT THIS STAGE WILL LEND SUPPORT TO THOSE WHO WISH TO AVOID ADOPTION OF CONVENTION BY ARGUING THAT TEXT NOT YET IN ADEQUATE SHAPE FOR FINAL ACTION. OBSTRUCTIONISTS MIGHT THEN ARGUE FOR RESUBMISSION OF DRAFT ARTICLES TO ILC FOR FURTHER WORK.

3. WE THINK APPROPRIATE POSITION WOULD BE MERELY TO EXPRESS GENERALLY POSITIVE REACTION TO ILC DRAFT ARTICLES AND TO VOICE CONFIDENCE THAT THEY ARE READY FOR FINAL WORK AND ADOPTION AT THIS FALL' S GA. CONSISTENT WITH THIS POSITION IS A WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER TECHNICAL CHANGES. WE DO NOT THINK IT WILL BE NECESSARY FOR KEY SUPPORTERS TO SUGGEST ANY SUCH CHANGES, AS WE ANTICIPATE SUCH SUGGESTIONS WILL COME FROM OTHER QUARTERS INDEPENDENTLY. WE WOULD HOPE THAT ULTIMATE RESULT OF NEGOTIATION WILL TURN OUT TO BE ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH USG AND HMG.

4. USUN SHOULD TAKE ABOVE POSITION ON DRAFT UK COMMENTS AT VAN BRUSSELEN GROUP MEETING.

5. AMEMBASSY LONDON IS REQUESTED TO VOICE THESE CONCERNS TO FCO AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL AND TO DELIVER COPY OF USG DRAFT COMMENTS BEING TRANSMITTED SEPTTEL. RUSH

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